TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, 18th April, 1923.

(Official Report.)

The Council met in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at 11-33 A. M. The President was in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12*—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Admission of all Caste Hindus to the Vedic Section of the Sanskrit College.

230. MR. V. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to issue orders to admit all caste-Hindu students in the Vedic Section of the Sanskrit College?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: The matter will be considered.

Supply and Sale of Local Salt at Alleppey.

231. MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have entered into any contract in regard to the supply and sale of local salt at Alleppey from 1096? If so, with whom and for what period?

(*b*) Will they be pleased to state whether such contracts, if ny, are entered into after they are put to public auction?

(*c*) What arrangements have been, or are proposed to be, made Government for the supply and sale of local salt at Alleppey during 98?

MR. N. NILAKANDA PILLAI: (*a*) On the 22nd April, 1920/10th Medam, 1095, a contract was given to Mr. S. Subrahmanya Karayalar to transport and sell local salt at Alleppey for 3 years from 1096.

(*b*) That contract was not put up to public auction.

(*c*) Government could not perform their part of the contract of 1095 in the years 1096 and 1097, and Mr. Subrahmanya Karayalar in consequence claimed damages and served a notice of suit. A fresh

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[Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.]

contract for the transport to and sale of local salt at Alleppey has been entered into with Mr. Subrahmanya Karayalar and he has waived his claims for damages under the contract of 1095.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: With reference to part (*b*) of the question, may I know what were the reasons which induced the Government not to put up that contract to public auction?

MR. N. NILAKANDA PILLAI: I claim notice.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: With reference to part (*c*), may I know why Government were not able to perform their part of the contract?

MR. N. NILAKANDA PILLAI: I claim notice for that also.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: I want to know which officer or officers are responsible for the non-performance of the contract.

PRESIDENT: I can give the information Mr. Parameswaran Pillai wants. But I think it would be better for me not to give answers to supplementary questions.

All the information wanted by the member could be given, but unfortunately Mr. N. Nilakanada Pillai cannot give it now.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: It is stated in the answer that a fresh contract was given to Mr. Subrahmanya Karayalar. I wish to know whether that contract was entered into by the Government after public auction.

MR. N. NILAKANDA PILLAI: It cannot naturally have been, for it was given by way of compromise.

Publicity Work of Government.

232. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the existing arrangements for the publicity work of the Government?

(*b*) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the necessity for a publicity bureau similar to the one existing in British India?

(*c*) Do the Government intend either to reform or improve the existing arrangements?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to prepare and lay on the table a statement showing the expenditure during the last five years incurred in connection with such publicity work?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) Under existing arrangements, the matter that has to be sent to the Press Room is determined by

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